(viii) Any case referred by the Govt. of India to the Institute concerned will be admitted on priority against one of the free beds.

(ix) Any increase in the price of the equipment over and above the amount of grant will be provided by the State Govt./institution from its own sources. In case the cost of the equipment is less than the amount sanctioned the institution will refund the difference to the Central Govt.

Use of Cobalt Radio therapy in India

733. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has emerged as a leader in the use of Cobalt Radio-therapy for the treatment of Cancer;

(b) if so, what are the details of the application of radio-therapy in India, including names of the hospitals/institutions which have already got the Cobalt units and names of the companies which supplied and the year in which each machine was installed; and

(c) what are the purpose and powers of the officials Standing Committee on Radiotherapy and details of the role played by it, so far, and envisaged for future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Cobalt Therapy is used for treatment of certain types of cancer patients in the hospitals. A list showing the names of the hospitals/institutions which have got the cobalt therapy units, the names of the machines and the year in which they were installed is given in the Annexure [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 41].

(c) The Standing Committee on Teletherapy Units set up by the Government is an Advisory Committee. The terms of reference of the Committee are given in the attached statement. (*See* below).

Statement

Terms of reference of standing committee on Teletherapy units:

(i) To consider and make recommendations to the concerned Departments in regard to requests for the purchase/supply of Teletherapy Units (Including requests for Linear Accelerators) both indigenous and imported for various hospitals/medical institutions and other governmental and non-governmental agencies for the treatment of cancer.

(ii) To review the functioning and operational problems of Teletherapy units already installed at various centres in the country so that the experience gained in any institution benefits other newer establishments.

(iii) Towards the fulfilment of the aforesaid objectives, the Committee may devise mechanisms and to satisfy itself that he concerned institution/hospitals have the necessary building(s), trained manpower, requisite infrastructure measures for ensuring radiation safety etc. to ensure the optimum utilisation of Teletherapy Units as well as other diagnostic and treatment etc. equipment available at each centre.

(iv) To act as a Technical Advisory Body to asses and Project the present and future demand for indigenously manufactured units and suggest modifications etc. in the designs specifications of equipment for the benefit of indigenous manufacturers and promote adequate productions of needed equipment of relevant and acceptable standards and specifications; and

(v) Any other matter which the Committee may, in its discreation or at the request of any of its Members may deem necessary to consider.